



PLACER PARKWAY

CORRIDOR PRESERVATION

PLACER PARKWAY CORRIDOR PRESERVATION UPDATE

The Placer Parkway Corridor Preservation Draft Tier 1 Environmental Impact Statement/Environmental Impact Report (Draft Tier 1 EIS/EIR) was circulated for public comment on July 2, 2007. It analyzed the impacts of five Build Corridor Alternatives (to connect SR 70/99 in south Sutter County to SR 65 in Placer County) and a No-Build Alternative. The Partially Revised Draft Tier 1 EIS/EIR was circulated for public comment on January 30, 2009. It updated data from the 2007 Draft Tier 1 EIS/EIR and provided additional growth analyses.

Final Tier 1 EIS/EIR for Placer Parkway Corridor Preservation—Available in November!

The Federal Highway Administration (FHWA), the California Department of Transportation (Caltrans), and the South Placer Regional Transportation Authority (SPRTA) have completed the Final Tier 1 Environmental Impact Statement/Program Environmental Impact Report (Final Tier 1 EIS/EIR) for the Placer Parkway Corridor Preservation project. The document provides information under federal (National Environmental Policy Act–NEPA) and state (California Environmental Quality Act–CEQA) law.

Placer Parkway is proposed as a new east-west roadway linking State Route (SR) 70/99 in Sutter County to SR 65 in Placer County. Placer Parkway is intended to reduce anticipated congestion on both the local and regional transportation system and to advance economic development goals in south Sutter County and southwestern Placer County. The Final Tier 1 EIS/EIR evaluates selection of a corridor within which the future Placer Parkway would be constructed.

FINAL TIER 1 EIS/EIR

Of the five corridor alignment alternatives considered, the Final Tier 1 EIS/EIR identifies Alternative 5 with a

no-access buffer as the Preferred Alternative under NEPA and the Environmentally Superior Alternative under CEQA (see map), subject to selection by FHWA and SPRTA. This conclusion was based on the 2007 Draft Tier 1 EIS/EIR, the 2009 Partially Revised Draft Tier 1 EIS/EIR (PRD), comments received on these documents, and on-going coordination with federal/state agencies and local jurisdictions.

Alternative 5 would have the fewest direct impacts to farmlands, wetlands, and Swainson's Hawk and White-Tailed Kite foraging habitat. It would be the least archeologically sensitive alternative. Other features of Alternative 5:

- Corridor most likely to contain the Least Environmentally Damaging Practicable Alternative (LEDPA), as determined by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers and U.S. Environmental Protection Agency. This was based on a conservation framework, which would help to prevent new interchanges for an approximately 5-mile-long segment (see map).
- Least potential for inducing growth.
- Least potential for secondary and indirect impacts on biological resources—including the lowest

placer parkway corridor preservation project

FINAL TIER 1 EIS/EIR AVAILABLE IN NOVEMBER

A Tier 1 EIS/EIR is a combined federal/state environmental review document. It emphasizes the relative differences among corridor alternatives to allow for an informed choice among alternatives. It focuses on broad topics and strategies for their mitigation. The Tier 1 process is nearing completion. When complete, SPRTA will be able to acquire land for the Placer Parkway. A Tier 2 environmental document, relying on this Tier 1 EIS/EIR, will provide a more detailed analysis of environmental impacts for specific alignments within the selected corridor.

NEED MORE INFORMATION?

- Visit the PCTPA project website at www.pctpa.net
- E-mail PCTPA at pctpa@pctpa.net
- Call PCTPA at 530-823-4030

potential for habitat fragmentation.

- Most consistent with the regional habitat conservation plan (PCCP) being developed by Placer County.
- Shortest alternative which limits its potential direct effects and construction costs.
- Supported by Placer County, Sutter County and City of Roseville.

The Final Tier 1 EIS/EIR contains comments received on the Draft Tier 1 EIS/EIR and the PRD and responses to these comments. It identifies changes to those documents as a result of the public comment process. It also includes a Mitigation Monitoring and Reporting Program.

FHWA, SPRTA AND SUTTER COUNTY ACTIONS

To complete the federal and state processes, the following will be required:

- **NEPA.** The FHWA will provide notice of availability of the Final Tier 1 EIS/EIR in the Federal Register 30 days prior to making a decision whether or not to select the Preferred Alternative. FHWA will explain its action in a Record of Decision. Comments related to the federal process should be sent to FHWA, Attn: Gary Sweeten, FHWA California Division, 650 Capitol Mall, Suite 4-100, Sacramento, CA 95814, no later than January 11, 2010.
- **CEQA.** The SPRTA Board of Directors is required to consider the information in the Final Program EIR before certifying the Final Tier 1 EIR as complete and before making a decision on the Preferred Alternative. The Board's certification hearing will

be held at 10:45 a.m. on December 3, 2009 at the Placer County Board of Supervisors Chambers, 175 Fulweiler Avenue, Auburn, CA 95603. Comments related to the state process should be sent to SPRTA, Attn: Celia McAdam, Executive Director, 299 Nevada Street, Auburn, CA 95603, before this hearing.

If the SPRTA Board approves the selection of Alternative 5, it will work with Placer and Sutter counties to amend their general plans to preserve this corridor for the future Placer Parkway. SPRTA and its member jurisdictions (Placer County and the cities of Roseville, Rocklin, and Lincoln) would also be able to acquire land for all or part of the selected corridor.

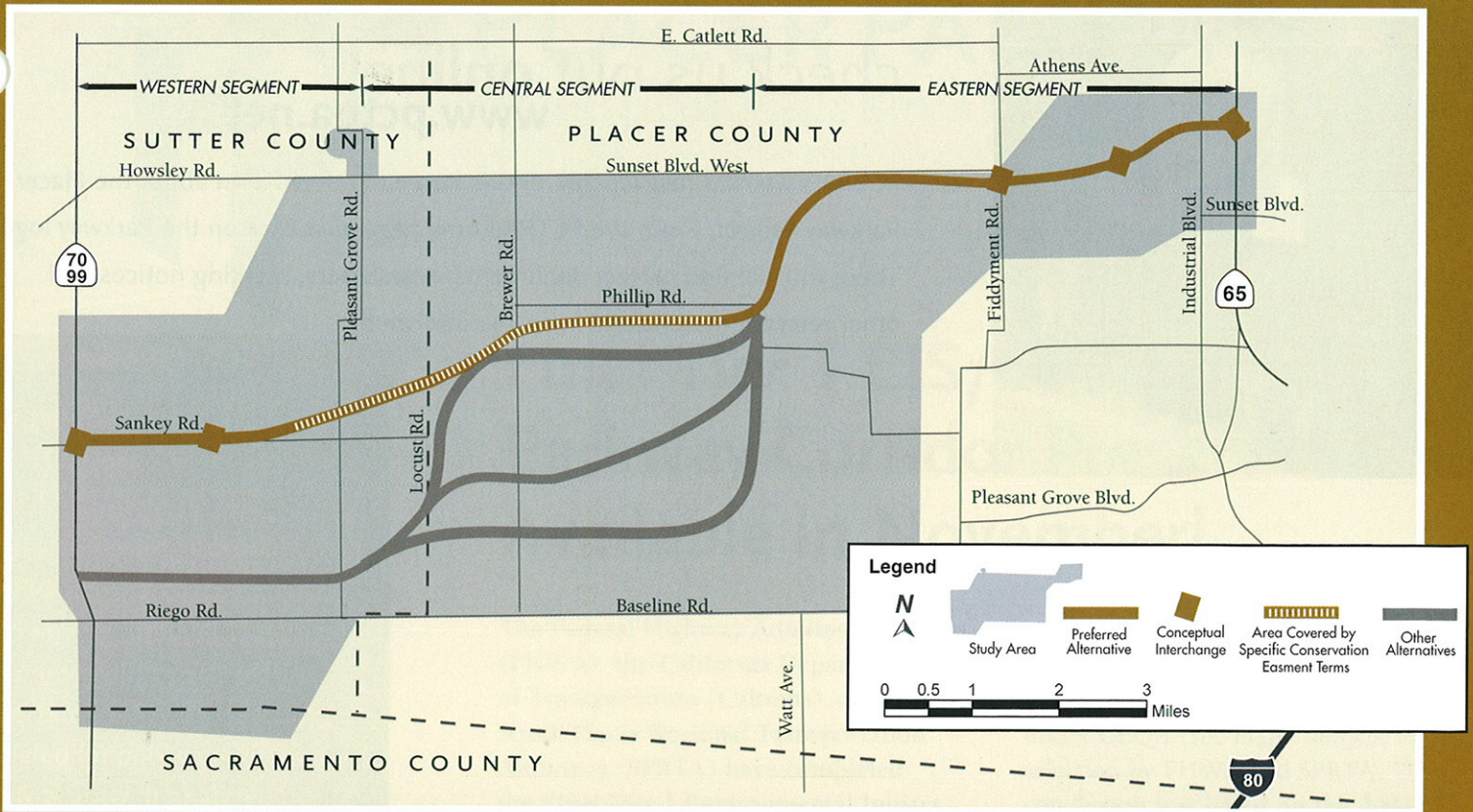
Sutter County (as a Responsible Agency) has actively participated in the environmental review process. The Sutter County Board of Supervisors will separately consider approval of the Preferred Alternative within its jurisdiction, based on the Final Program EIR.

WHAT ABOUT PLACER PARKWAY CONSTRUCTION?

If Alternative 5 is approved, the "Tier 2" level environmental review can begin. This is sometimes referred to as the project-level or construction-level review. It will analyze the construction and operational impacts of specific roadway alignments within the selected corridor. Starting the Tier 2 process will depend on identifying a Lead Agency (or agencies) and funding availability.

No construction will occur until after Tier 2 environmental studies have been completed.

preferred corridor alignment alternative



WHERE YOU CAN FIND THE FINAL TIER 1 EIS/EIR

The Final Tier 1 EIS/EIR will be available in mid-November for public review at the Placer County Transportation Planning Agency, 299 Nevada Street, Auburn, CA 95603 and at the following additional locations:

Placer County Planning Department,
3091 County Center Drive, Auburn

Placer County Public Works Department,
3091 County Center Drive, Auburn

Sutter County Planning Department,
1130 Civic Center Blvd., Yuba City

Sacramento County Planning Department,
827 7th Street, Room 230, Sacramento

Placer County Library,
350 Nevada Street, Auburn

Placer County Library—Loomis,
6050 Library Drive, Loomis

Sutter County Library—Main Branch,
750 Forbes Avenue, Yuba City

Sutter County Library—Pleasant Grove Branch,
3093 Howsley Road, Pleasant Grove

Sutter County Library—Browns Branch,
1248 Pacific Avenue, Rio Oso

Sacramento County Public Library,
828 I Street, Sacramento

California State University,
2000 State University Drive—East, Sacramento

Roseville Public Library—Downtown,
225 Taylor Street, Roseville

Roseville Public Library—Maidu,
1530 Maidu Drive, Roseville

Rocklin Library, 5460 Fifth Street, Rocklin

Lincoln Library, 590 Fifth Street, Lincoln

Sierra College Library, 5000 Rocklin Road, Rocklin

Sacramento County Library—North Natomas, 2500 New Market Drive, Sacramento

Sacramento County Library, North Highlands—Antelope, 4235 Antelope Road, Antelope

Copies can also be obtained electronically from the PCTPA's project website at www.pctpa.net. Electronic copies are being distributed to all those who commented on the Draft Tier 1 EIS/EIR or the PRD.